



H.R. 2366 – SBA Veterans' Programs Act of 2007

Floor Situation

H.R. 2366 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Vern Buchanan (R-FL) on May 17, 2007, and was reported by the House Committee on Small Business on June 15, 2007.

H.R. 2366 is expected to be considered on the floor on June 18, 2007.

Summary

H.R. 2366:

- Authorizes the Administration to make grants from appropriated funds for Veterans Assistance Small Business program to:
 - Provide online counseling and distance learning for veterans and members of the Armed Forces to overcome the impediments to entrepreneurship they face,
 - Increase coordination among organizations that assist veterans, and;
 - Create a marketing campaign to promote awareness and education of the services the Center provides.
- The Veterans Assistance Small Business grants may be between \$75,000 and \$250,000 each.
- Requires the SBA to increase its outreach to Veterans by ensuring that Veteran Business Outreach Centers regularly participated in the Department of Labor's Transition Assistance Program workshops.
- Authorizes the SBA to offer federal grants to "eligible entities" to make presentations at the DOL Transition Assistance workshops on the opportunities available from the Administration for veterans including entrepreneurial and business training.

- Requires the SBA to establish a Women Veterans Business Training Resource Program to compile information on resources available to women veterans for business training and to disseminate the information through the Veteran Business Outreach Centers and women's business centers.
- Requires the SBA to increase the number of Veterans Business Outreach Centers (VBOCs) by at least 2 for each fiscal year 2008 – 2009, and by the number the Administrator of the SBA considers appropriate, based on existing need, for each fiscal year thereafter.
- Requires the SBA to sponsor an independent study on the “gaps in the availability of Veterans Business Outreach Centers across the United States,” and report to Congress within 6 months of enactment of this legislation.

Background

The Veterans' Business Outreach Center “provides business training, counseling, technical assistance, and mentoring to Veterans, Reservist, National Guard, and Active Duty business owners and start-up candidates...” “This program is funded by the Small Business Administration to serve as a clearinghouse of business and technical assistance for those interested in starting or growing a business. Utilizing Small Business Administration partners such as the Small Business Development Centers, Service Corps or Retired Executives (SCORE), One Stop Capital Shops, and Business Information Centers...we are able to assist individuals through each phase of their business development” ([Veterans' Business Outreach Center website](#)). Currently there are four Veterans Business Outreach Centers.

Cost

At the time of publication The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) did not have a cost estimate available for H.R. 2366.

Staff Contact

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